OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC#

153-2013

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO:

Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE:

April 30, 2013

SUBJECT: Summary of Free Tax Preparation Services for City Residents and Employees

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to provide you with the final service numbers for the 2012 tax year.

As you may know, the City partnered with the Internal Revenue Service and VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Program to provide free tax preparation services to our City's residents and employees with household incomes up to \$51,000 for the 2012 tax year. Volunteer tax preparers were available Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays in the Answer Center, located on the first floor of City Hall from Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> until Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.

This year, volunteers transmitted 136 tax returns (up from 72 the prior year) generating tax refunds of \$111,197 (up from \$71,074). Additional highlights include:

- The average tax refund was \$1,069.20
- 39 households claimed the Earned Income Tax Credit
- 12 households claimed the Education Tax Credit
- 8 households claimed the Child Tax Credit

## Our volunteers were:

- Hada Moreira (who served as our Volunteer Site Coordinator)
- Maria Castro
- Robert Mejia
- Zach Evangelista

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

C: Executive Staff
Maria Ruiz, Director, Office of Community Services

JLM/KGB/MLR

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